

Introduction to Sensation and Perception

Psychology 215b

King's University College at the University of Western Ontario

Tuesdays & Thursdays 9-11am, Room DL 130

Course Instructor: Dr. Jennifer Steeves

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An introduction to the study of the human senses and higher order perceptual processes. Data gathered from psychophysical research and studies of the nervous system in both humans and other animals will be discussed. The course will review the mechanisms and principles of operation of vision, hearing and touch.

Course Text: Perception, 4th Edition, Sekuler & Blake and Goldstein (CH 15, Perceptual Development) pp 509-531 & 538-539 (on reserve)

Course evaluation:

3 tests worth 33.33% each

or

2 tests worth 33.33% each and 1 final worth 33.33%

If you choose to write the final exam, I will drop your lowest test score.

Antirequisites: Psychology 115a/b and the former Psychology 212a/b, 213a/b, 211E.

Prerequisite: At least 60% in a 020-level Psychology course.

Plagiarism* is a serious Scholastic Offence. For computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams, software to check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating may be used. Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as, footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offences in the 2004 Western Academic Calendar, pg.38).

Tuesday	Thursday
January	
4 Intro to topic/ video	6 CH 2 The Human Eye
11 CH 3 The Eye and Seeing	13
18 CH 4 Central Visual Pathways	20
25 Test 1	27 CH 5 Spatial/Form Vision
February	
1 CH 6 Object Perception	3
8 CH 7 Colour Perception	10
15 Test 2 (deadline to drop course)	17 CH 8 Seeing a 3-D World
22 Reading Week	24 Reading Week
March	
1 CH 9 Action and the Perception of Events	3
8 Perceptual Development, Goldstein (CH 15) pp 509-31 & 538-39 (on reserve)	10
15 Catch-up/spill over	17 Test 3
22 CH 10 The Ear and Auditory System	24
29 CH 11 Hearing and Listening	31
April	
5 CH 12 Touch	7